ASHANTEE.

General Wolseley's Personal Ambition and Pledge of Conquest.

Scenes Around the Camp Fires During a Difficult and Dangerous March.

"Sailors Can't Sing, Sir, When They Have No Rum."

THE BRIGADE ONWARD.

Fantee Allies and Their Services, or African Indians at Work.

Every-Day Life on the Prah Contrasted with That on the Banks of the Hudson.

PRAUSU, Jan. 14, 1874. Despite the frigid reticence and chilling reserve maintained by Sir Garnet Woiseley and his staff toward newspaper correspondents respecting future movements, the past week has furnished us with sufficient food for comment. We have seen a young, ambitious General, who at the War Office drew up an elaborate plan of the Ashantee campaign, and, subsequently, on his arrival at Cape Coast, proclaimed the date on which his little army should cross the Prah, as confidently as if his army had already crossed that river, struggling to keep his word intact; though most men, seeing the lack of material at Pransu, believed the thing to be impossible. Sir Garnet has gone to great lengths to secure the fulfilment of his promise; he has employed Colonel Wood's men, the First and second West India regiments, as carriers to bring up supplies from the down stations, and finally the famous Black Watch, the Forty-second Highlanders, have volunteered to carry provisions, which in such an enervating climate as this is an act deserving of as much praise as the most conspicuous bravery on the field of battle. THE PRESS AND THE ARMY.

While waiting for the advance let me tell you squething of ourselves. We are now told that certain regiments shall move on to-morrow. These will comprise Colonel Wood's regiment of mixed natives and the Second West India, and perhaps the naval brigade, though the latter name has not transpired as yet. They will proceed to Essiaman and the next day to Acrofroom. We are not told, however, how these troops are to be fed, what supplies there are in front, what arrangements have been made for the regular transport of provisions from Frahsu to the advanced posts. There cannot be a large supply at the front, as Major Russell's force has been engaged in improving the road beyond the Prah. It is very probable, however, that each regiment will convey a few days' provisions with it, which will allow for certain arrangements to be made after their departure. When a staff officer was asked the other day whether the white troops would depart on the 15th he replied that when the white troops would march they would proceed from the down stations directly for the front. This reply is in the usual vague way the staff employ, according to the instructions of Sir Garnet.

The Twenty-third Fusileers have been wondering all this time what is to become of them. The day had arrived for their debarkation after a weary cruise some distance out to sea; but, after ou wing had debarked, an order arrived at Cape Coast that they should stay on board. Indignant at this treatment, the first wing continued its march through Cape Coast, driving its ancient goat ahead, which presently died from sheer old age and change of climate. On arriving at Aceroful this wing was haited until further orders. We are informed that only 100 men of this regiment will be permitted to enter Coomassie with the

European brigade under Sir Archibald Allison. The Royal Engineers, under Captain Buckle, have left Prahsu for roadmaking and otherwise improving transit. Major Hume, the indefatigable chief of the Engineers, some time ago proceeded to Essiaman, where he has prepared abundant work for his people. Major Russell has advanced eight miles beyond Essiaman, and will immediately prepare a camp for the oncomintroops. The naval brigade has been ordered to provide its own transport, which it is very well qualified to do, having a whole fleet whence to draw carriers from Krumen. Four hundred and twenty of these faithful, hardworking Kru boys will accou pany the naval brigade in that capacity.

SAILORS, FUSILEERS AND ENGINEERS. For the last few days there have not been heard the joyous chorus and the roaring songs which made the evenings lively and pleasant at the camp of the naval brigade. A profound silence has brooded over that locality lately. This was so unusual that inquiries were made as to the reason. and we were told by a weather-beaten blue jacket in most respectful but melancholy language, that "sailors can't sing, sir, leastways it oughtn't to boys think better of this 'blarsted country' while we have rum, or we forget it when we sit and sing round a biazing fire; but when there is 'no rum sir, ah !' we begin to tell one another what people say of the lever of this country; how such and such a mate died or how some shipmate was sent to the hospital very much gone, poor fellow, and such stories, sir, carry one far into the night, and finally to bed with the feeling that something isn't as it ought to be." Last night, however, the songs and chorns startled every one into smiles and social chattiness, and we all knew that a fresh supply of rum had come up, and the sturdy blue jackets had been fired into blussful unconsciousness of the mortalities and unhappy memories of an African climate. Very few amusements sumee to make life enjoyable in a camp. The press corps have been very fortunate in their mess and surroundings, and eke out what is pleasurable in such a country as this, and depends upon themselves for amusement and social joys. Our first week on the Prah was passed in constructing a comfortable but, out of which we contrived to make two apartments, a dining room and a bath and store room. Our tents, of course, sheltered us at night. Having possessed ourselves of a but, we sought to increase our comfort with the adventitious aid of architectural improve-ments; we railed off our quarters by a lattice-like rail, and within the enclosure still more embellished our quarters by making a flower garden, which elicited the admiration of the entire camp. An abundant supply of creature comforts enables ns of an evening to contemplate a longer stay in this camp with philosophic resignation, RESIGNATION.

From our but door we can see across the square to headquarters, which have a very deserted aspect during the day; but towards evening things begin to look livelier. An officer lounges out, gives a yawn or two and casts an eye about for a human face: presently another emerges out of his wattled den, and the two engage in talk and form a nucleus, which attracts a group. By and by Sir Carnet appears, bright and genial looking, and a promenade is begun which probably ends across the iver. At the late hour of seven P. M. the headquarters mess dines; at nine P. M. the symposium rest. At decline of day others of the camp betake themselves to the river for a bath. It is singular, considering that all African rivers are peopled with amphibious monsters, what a complete bathers of the Prah have enjoyed from the attacks of the croco these animals have their haunts in the river there can be no doubt, for a party of officers captured a sullen youngster of the deep the day before yesterday. This little

fellow measures about three feet in length, and affords wonder and amusement to all who look upon him. Wonder, at the peculiar way in which the strong, flexible, ridgy tail, at the scaly armor on his back and neck and the horny shield which covers his eyes; amusement, at the way in which he takes his imprisonment, his unconquerable suitenness and the way in which he affects death. There can be no doubt that there are crocodiles in the Prah, but so far we have escaped an accident for which, in my opinion, we may congratulate our-

selves. AFRICAN INDIANS. We are collecting cattle here to an important number, but the mismanagement of the Superintendence, in surrendering them to the charge of worthless natives, has caused the loss of some of the finest of them. Even the very light work of tending cattle requires to be superintended by European, otherwise the miserable Fantee permits his charge to wander astray where nothing but the most meagre vegetation can be procured for their subsistence, and where they drop down quietly to the earth from sheer starvation. Apropos of the Fantees, the Kossos, a tribe of hunters from Sierra Leone, wno have the faculty of scouting and searching out paths and traces of human footsteps almost as much as our North American Indians, have discovered the hiding place of the Pantees. Away, deep in tangled habitable spot, but one of the best hiding places that could be imagined, these deserters had sought and found a locality which Ashantee scouts would not find, into which no Fantee policeman could penetrate unless guided thither by the unerring instinct of a Kosso man. Hither they had invited a few trustworthy women, who were made to purvey food for them, while they enjoyed themselves serenely after their brief period of hard toil and high wages. A few bruised twigs, a few crushed blades of grass, were sufficient for the Kossos, and the trail was followed swittly until the deserters' lair was discovered and the recreants were brought to camp for punishment. But in these fastnesses of nature many such lairs might be found, if it were worth while to discover them; but time presses. The Kossos, as well as other men, are needed for other pressing services, so that the majority of the deserters will never be apprehended.

But justice is to be meted out to the fogues who have thus placed obstacles to our progress, by not only refusing to despatch their men to aid the expedition, but digressing from their way to preach sedition and mutiny among the disaffecte I still in the employ of the British General. The King of Abra was tried by a court and sentenced to be shot. When Sir Garnet Wolseley heard of the sentence he at once ordered that the King should be hanged, and not shot. The King was a traitor, and did his best by precept and to disaffect others. As regards the natives, the English government cannot be accused of cruelty or injustice, but certainly of gross leniency. The British have treated African as we treat dainty children. They have petted them and spoiled them, but they have never punished them. Sir Garnet was one of the first to dis cover this fact, and endeavored to act justly by hanging, or sentencing the King of Abra to be hanged. Leniency is weakness with the vulgar and ignorant, and in future dealings with the native Africans England will do well to remember this. In a great measure this excessive leniency aided to produce this campaign. My references for this statement are the Blue Books. Those who care to read them will blush at the depth of selfdegradation the Colonial Office and its employes have been guilty of in their written intercourse with the sable potentate of Ashantee in past times. I cannot say worse of England and her colonial government than that in ner intercourse with the King of Ashantee she has deeply humiliated her-

PUNISHING THE NATIVES.

THE PRAH AND THE HUDSON IN WINTER. But passing by such topics for the present, I will attempt to describe the vast difference that lies between our life on the Prah and your life on the Hudson. I have the advantage over you for the slightest effort of the faucy. I can sketch New York city and its teeming population dwelling un-der the rigid rule of a hard winter; the filthy snow nears ranged on each side of Broadway; the long, long lines of animals struggling amid the debris of winter more than knee-deep; the cheerless faces of the citizens, made more cheerless by the nipping cold, and many more uncomfortable and c things attending a residence in New York during winter. Can you imagine in your turn our life in camp on the Prah? The terrible sun which has death in its flerce, merciless neat, apoplectic strokes in its beams; the dark earth steaming hot, emitting its baleful vapor; the dense forest and denser undergrowth whence issues the fever which lays so many of us prostrate in delirium; the long continuous lines of naked olacks bearing burcontrol sheds; the unjacketed officers who pass by us complaining of the heat and the lassitude and fatigue it so quickly engenders, the crowds in the evening who hasten to cool their parboiled bodies in the waters of the Prah; the perspiring people who defy the heat and the glare of the tropics and sign for one drop of cool water to cool their parched A SCARRO SPATOY

The newly arrived soldiers give us rich iun. Sailors have always carried off the palm for ingenuous sayings, but in this campaign I am certain the soldiers will win the day. What they have done has convulsed our camp with laughter, and, as it may convulse you with benefit to your health, I give it you. The rife brigade, or, at least, a portion of it, is encamped at a place called Barrocoe. It may be remembered that Prince Arthur is a captain in this corps, and that the regiment has a very high reputation for gallantry. Soon after its placed at night as sentry at a place looking toward the deepest part of the forest, whence issued during the darkest hours of night a chorus unmelodious sounds which were sometimes chorused by a series of harsh, unearthly screams. The sounds caused by a laughing hyena were as music compared to them; the shrill cry of the fish eagle is not half as alarming. These startling screams were uttered at regular intervals and seemingly in close proximity to the bewildered sentry. He dared not fire, for to alarm the camp by a shot fired at random into the black forest with the hope that the beast or whatever it was might be frightened into silence was not to be thought of. But the sentry concluded that by preparing himself against attack by fixing his sword bayonet he would be guarding himself in some measure against any manuestations of hostility the beast might exhibit. Thus he stood constantly peering into the impenetrable darkness, vainly seeking to pierce the almost palpable blackness of the night until the relief party came round. The sentry had no time to recover himself and sheath his sword before the party in charge of the officer was close upon him, so he thrust his sword under his arm, and, after challenging, brought his weapon to a "port arms" to receive the relief. seeing his evident confusion and the sword under his arm, the officer demanded the cause, and was told by the sentry, "If you plaze, zur, there's some snake of a wildth baste a constantly screaming close by here. Divil a bit has he stopped since of have been standing here, and of'm thinking the crathur can't be far off. Sure the divil must be in him. So of just fixed my swurd for him to give him some cold steel." "Oh, you mean that lemor which cries out so. Why, my dear fellow, that wild beast is not as large as a rappit. You need never lear anything from him." The poor sentry. it is reported, has been fearfully charfed by the Rifles for his fright at an animal not bigger than a

A SOLDIERS' CAMP PIRE is a cheery sight. Each face as you see it by the firelight seems tinted with a warm, rosy hue, and there is very much of genial life and kindly spirit around it. As fires are not always kindled for the warmth they give, even a winter fire is as welcome for its blaze and cheeriness as for its warmth; but in the tropics, the military camp fire is kindled for the magnetic geniality its bright blaze evokes. With the Rides as with the sailors the camp fire is a nightly institution, and around these the bonny laces are gathered and become wreathed in smiles as some highly colored story is being told for their

delectation. Every imaginable thing affords a subject for graphic illustration and embellishment and the Rifles enjoy the tales with a zest which speaks well for the good fellowship which distinguishes them. But the stories generally treat of wild animals and their savagery, of thrilling adventures with beasts of prey. One night the fire circle had sat up rather late, the anecdotes had been frequent and various and more than usually illustrative of the dangers to be encountered in an Airican forest. The weird sounds which issued from the deep, dark forest surrounding the camp at Barrocoe and stole through the darkness on their quickened ears, lent somewhat of an alarming reality to the themes which had engaged their ear that night, and if the brave Rifles had been subjected to the con essional there is doubt but that many of them would have contessed they would much preter encountering the dangers of the lorest during the daylight than at night time. It chanced that a sergeant was compelled to proceed alone to a distant quarter of the camp, after a whole repertoire of alarm ng stories had been exhausted. The night was pitch dark, the tall cottonwoods seemed to rise to infinity in the darkness, while the noises that issued from them were extremely depressive to the soul. The sergeant thought he might as well prepare against contingencies, for who knows, something might happen to a fellow in such an unchristian country. He unbuttoned his holster, and kept his hand on the stock of his He stopped once or twice to listen, as he imagined he heard footsteps. Again he continues his fearful way, and again and again he halted to listen. Through the darkness he could faintly distinguish the outlines of a huge beast, but, whatever it was, the beast remained motionwhen he stopped. Did the thing mean to spring upon him-lions and tigers and leopards generally did on a benighted man; that was the usual mode of attack. Arguing thus the sergeant diew out his revolver and kept it directed at the monstrous thing, which still persisted in following As he drew near his own quarters the sergeant, whose fears had risen to the highest pitch, shouted out to his comrades in most agonizing accents, "I say, Bill, Jack, Tom, hurry up, for God's sake, and show us a light, quick, for mercy's sake; here is a wild beast going to attack me." Responsive to the poor sergeant's cries for assistance came the cheery "Aye, aye" of his messmates, who sprang out of their tents with lights and Snyders and swords to the rescue. But Imagine the aston-ishment of all when the lanterns disclosed the

The sergeant, however, is not the only man who has been frightened nearly out of his wits by such a domestic animal, for it was but the other day when a native, being requested to lead a donkey to water, started with him gayly enough, until the animal began to bray, when the native ran away from him with the speed of lightning, and never halted until he found himself a good half mile away from the strange brute, which could excel even the African lion in noise.

"AMERICAN COMEDY---IS IT COMING?"

English Opinion of the American Drama. [From the Saturday Review (London), Feb. 14.] A recent number of the New York HERALD contains an article bearing the title "American Comedy-ls it Coming ?" The answer given to this question is such as one would have expected. Poor as this country is in current dramatic literature, sae is rich in comparison with America. "Nobody will write an American play," except, we may remark, Sardou, who does not exactly please American taste. A few years ago a drama was brought out which was popularly accepted as an American play. "It was merely a very literal piece of realism, with a cosmopolite series of dramatts persona, and the scenes adroitly laid near the Rocky Mountains." But order to produce "a contemporaneous comedy" it is necessary to do something more than provide "portraits of places, furniture of the period and vivincation of (ashion plates." The dramatist who is master of his art is not content with investing every territorial settler with the moral proportions of a hero—albeit a hectoring hero—and unit-ing highly improbable incidents to the another by wholly impossible links. His incidents would grow out of his characters, and his characters would develop from his incidents just as they do in real When the truly American comedy comes along we shall entertain no objection to its having just as many handsome dresses for the leading lady as that somewhat exacting personage desire, provided that it is not necessary for the management to depend upon the handsome dresses for the success of the play, and provided the accessories are not made to occupy so large a space in the public eye that the essentials are lost sight of." This passage puts the matter very forcibly, and we will only add that, "when the truly American comedy comes along," we hope to be in

the way of meeting it. As might be expected, and interary assistance than we are, and they endeavor to supply this wantot taient by providing everything that money can buy. We sugat be quite sure that, it a good piay were produced in America, it would be brought to England, but nothing of the kind has come. And it is tolerably certain that Americans would not be content with that drary entertainment cailed a lecture if they could get anything better. "We want a comedy deriving its elements from civilization in the United Stares and limiting its eclecticism to what is generical; American." One writer who has entered to the content alone and summing the content alone and summing the content alone and summing the concert saloons and summ." Another writer localizes English scenes and characters by help of a novel of Trollope; or he assimilates the "Buffalo Bill" element, and Exes his scene on the border of Western civilization. Another writer "concocts a farce in five acts, which yield a number of presty women the copportunity of wear ng stylish diesses, and render it necessars for upholsterers and cabinetmakers to do their work brillantly, and give plent of it." But these efforts do not salidy reasonate seems of work and render they could produce so easily. But it must be something American, insigenous, no dimsy translation from a French play, no unaccredited adaptation from a Ergush nivel. "We should not object so much to the dry goods drama, if it were leavened with American character and genuine wit."

Turning to the musical and dramatic intelligence of the same journal we find that a play founded in the "Last of the Mohicans" is in preparation at Nilo's Garden. "The managers claim, we believe that it is not." All that is insisted on is many formatican from Sardou, but to catain in preparation at the produce that it is not. "All that is insisted on it may that it is not." All that is insisted on it may be a subject of the produced at the produced a

WHO WILL BE POLICE COMMISSIONER?

Numerous Aspirants for the Position-Bargain and Sale for Office-Lively Lobbying-The King Is Dead, Long Live the King." Scarcely has the mound covering the remains of

Henry Smith, the late President of the Police Com-missioners, been closed before a bevy of candicient patriotism to be desirous of serving his country at the rate of \$10,000 per an .um. Even while the deceased was lying in the death throes some of the aspirants for his prospectively vacant shoes were anxiously canvassing the chances of a speedy dissolution and a suosequent appointment to the Presidency of the Police Commission. During the period of Mr. Smith's illness, and since his demise, up to Thursday noon, the would-b their desires to themselves. But yesterday they paraded in full force, if not in propria persona by their representative friends, who eloquently advanced their claims upon Mayor Havemeyer in the

The Municipal Executive who rules over the welfare of Gotham was visited yesterday by men high in office, men of wealth and position, and also by poor "cusses" with no position, but willing to take one, and the endeavor of each was to impress His Honor with the grand importance of their candidate and the peculiar fitness of that aspirant, &c., &c. Mayor Havemeyer received all with his wonted smile. While be ng persuaded by the office-seeker direct or the office-seeker by proxy he would con-Fire Department and listen to what each had to say with an alarming seriousness. Every once in a while he would break out into one of his hearty and chuckling laughs and adroitly turn the conversation into other channels before the interlocutor was aware of the diversion. He would not talk about the Police Commission if not very hard

The veteran Tauriow Weed has called upon the Mayor since the death of Commissioner Smith, and it is understood that he is pressing the claim of one of his proteges with all his eloquence. The chief argument brought to bear on the Mayor is that this candidate is inimical it not diametrically opposed to the Custom House influence, and coniently he has a claim on the Mayor, as both parties cherish the same feelings. It is furthermore claimed that he has great influence in Albany in connection with Commissioner Van Nort, and if he should be appointed the Legislature will be apt to abandon the project for a Metropolitan Police

he should be appointed the Legislature will be apt to abandon the project for a Metropolitan Police organization.

Next in order, and one of the most formidable candidates, is Alderman John J. Morris, one of the most popular members of the Common Council. Mr. Morris is known to possess the warmest friendship of the Mayor; in fact, he has stood in the breach many a time to decend Mr. Havemeyer and press his appointments with a successful issue. A derman Morris is esteemed an honest man, a great lavorite around the City Hail and a stanch republican. If he is fortunate enough to receive the appointment of Police Commissioner his nomination would probably be confirmed unanimously. Alderman Van Schaick has expressed himself to the effect that Mr. George W. Quintard, now Commissioner of Emigration, might receive the Mayor's nomination, but that would be of little importance, as the Board of Alderman are the parties of the second part requisite to consummate the arrangement, and several Aldermen stated that Mr. Quintard, although an estimable gentleman, would stand very little chance of confirmation.

Up to thee o'clock last evening the list of candidates developed itself to the following extent:—Adderman John J. Morris.

Shepard F. Knapp, Jr. Ex-Senator Abram Lent. Ex-Ald, Henry Clausen. Jonathan Sturgis.

Jackson S. Schultz.

Bernard Casserly.

George W. Quintard.

Mr. Morrissey was about the City Hall for a con-

D. H. Brower.

Thomas C. Acton.
George W. Quintard.

Mr. Morrissey was about the City Hali for a considerable period during yesterday. It is supposed that he was "working a route" for some friend, as he stated positively that he was not a cannotate for the position, rumors to the contrary notwithstanding. Alterman Clausen, it is also said, declines in advance the profered honor.

Besides the above named, the following gentlemen who were aspirants last year, before Company of the contrary solutions. men, who were aspirants last year, be ore Com-missioners Charlick, Gardner, Duryes and Russeil were appointed, have given notice or the fact that they are candidates again. Among this list the

B. F. Manierre, Police Commissioner, recommended by Rev. Wm. H. Boole.

James G. Maguire, recommended by H. Archibaid—Kiein and Twelfth Assembly District Committee.

Jacob M. Patterson, ex-member of Assembly, is recommended by Alcerman Kehr, Richard Sayre, Charles J. Foisom, Nelson Sherwood and B. W.

Floyd. Henry Bergh, President of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, recommended by Joseph H. Choate, Royal Phelps, Howard Pot-ter, John J. Cisco, S. B. Chittenden and Sinchair

Touser.
Seth C. Hawley, Chief Clerk to Police Commissioners, is recommended by Henry N. Beers, Council Political Reform, Judge Joseph S. Bosworth, General James Bowen, Dorman B. Eaton. Shepard F. Knapp, Jr., is recommended by Senator. Weetin.

tor Woodin.

It has leaked out that a bargain—for it is no more nor less than such—was made that to fill the present vacancy in the Police Commission a republican should be appointed, and, at the expension of Commissioner Russell's term which will

ment.
The nomination for Police Commissioner will not be sent to the Board of Aldermen until next Thursday arternoon, unless a special session is called sooner. What changes in the programme of to-day may occur before that time no one can

LIVINGSTONE'S FATE.

Letter from the Austrian Consul, Brenner, at Zanzibar, to Dr. Petermann, of Gotha-Civilization in East Africa-Death of Two Young African Explorers. FRANKFORT-ON-THE-MAIN, Feb. 13, 1874.

The German geographer, Dr. Petermann, publishes in the German press the following interesting letter, which he has received from the Austrian Consul at Zanzibar, Herr Richard Brenner. It is dated the 14th of January, and reads :-

LIVINGSTONE.

I have but little more to add to my telegram concerning Livingstone's death. The English traveller left the east coast of Lake Bembe at the commencement of August (11 deg. 30 min. south lattude, 28 deg. 30 min. east longitude), in order to the commencement of August (12 deg. 30 min. east longitude). latitude, 28 deg. 30 min. east longitude), in order to return to Zanzibar via Unyamyemoe. During his journey he passed for two days over watercourses and had to wade through inundated country until ne was attacked by dysentery, from which he died after a lew days' suffering. His Zanzibar attendants prepared the corpse with sait and spirits and proceeded to Unyamyembe. A messenger was despatched ahead and brought the news to Cameron at Unyamyembe, and it was by him transmitted on to Zanzibar. The deepest regret prevails that this hardy, energetic African wanderer is thus carried finally to his rest. His lame will be lasting, notwithstanding that during hie it was criticised by a Cooley or a Burton.

withstanding that during life it was criticised by a Gooley or a Burton.

THE CAMERON EXPEDITION.

Information from Cameron about his own expedition is not encouraging. Cameron himself is entirely exhausted by violent lever, his companion, Dr. Dilion, has lost his sight, and Murphy is in a miserable condition. There can be no thought of proceeding to Unyamyembe, and it is assumed that the expedition will return with the corpse and effects of the dead traveller; for it is to be presumed that the Doctor's diaries, &c., are preserved, though Cameron does not make any special mention to this effect.

SLAVERT.

A German botanist and coming African traveller,
M. Hildebrand, has been here (Zanzibar) for the
past year, preparing for a journey to the very
neart of the Galla and Somail lands. * *
There is a calm just now in the much discussed
slavery question after much dust had been cast
in our eyes to prevent a too close examination of the kernel of the subject. England intends
to occupy—and has, indeed, in part done so—Kiloa,
Mombas, Durniord and Kismayo. This is done only
in order to be able to cut off the land slave routes.
Whatever reasons there may be, the occupation Whatever reasons there may be, the occupation will be, at all events, serviceable in getting a better

Whatever reasons there may be, the occupation will be, at all events, serviceable in getting a better knowledge of Africa, and, perhaps, of advantage for the occupied land.

Zanzibar has visibly recovered from the effects of the hurricane. For a year past East Africa has been connected by a steamer line from Aden and the Cape; now Zanzibar is connected with Madagascar by a steam line, subsidized by the French government. If the English railroad to Uniamwesi be built, of which prominent men are speaking here—Sir Bartle Frere among them—then luture African travellers will be able to reach this point in the comfortable cabin of a steamer. Next day they can breaklast in Unyanyembe on elephant's leet and despatch home interesting reports by telegraph. But at present the African Sphinx is ever demanding fresh sacrifices, both in the east and west. Besides Livingstone, we had to lament a few weeks ago the deeth of two young travellers—Hagenoeck, of Hamburg, and Count Pinto, of Venice. Direct the course of the discoverer towards the North Fole, for there a really fresh and undangerous air brevails.

BICHARD BRENNER.

IRISH AND AMERICAN RIFLEMEN.

Coming Contest Between the Crack Shots of the Green Isle and of the United States.

Meeting and Resolutions of the Irish Sharpshooters-The Winners of the Elcho Shield Anxious for a World-Wide Victory.

[From the Dublin Daily Express, Feb. 18.] The Irish Rifle Association held its first meeting of the season on Tuesday, at the offices No. 110 Grafton street, to transact business of an important nature, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, M. P. in the coair.

Before alluding to the business of the day the Chairman, reserring to the sympathy generally felt by the riflemen of Ireland with Lord Elcho in his recent bereavement, proposed the following reso-

That this association, having heard with great regret of the death of the gallant Lieutenant Charteris, from illness contracted on service at the Gold Coast, in the Ashabee war, desire to ofter their respectuic condolence to Lord and Lady Elcho in their severe affection.

The resolution was unanimously adopted and Major Leech was requested to forward it to the Duke of Abercorn, as President of the Irish Rifle

Association, for transmission to Lord Elcho.

Major Leech then addressed the Council, and stated that the important matter he had to submit for their consideration was the great match between the Irish (now champions of Great Britain) and the American nation. He then read the challenge in which he (Major Leech) offered to bring over a team of Irishmen armed with Rigby rifies, and to compete with the chosen skors of Americas armed with American made rifies, en their own ground. To this challenge the Americans have responded; and General Wingate, who is Secretary of the National Rifie Association of America, writes to say that they are ready to accept the challenge, provided the 1,100 yards range be given up, leaving the range at 800, 900 and 1,000 yards. A programme of the proposed match was then presented by Major Leech to the meeting, which elicited considerable discussion, and at length was finally agreed to, the Council waiving the 1,100 yards in deference to the expressed wish of the Americans. The iollowing resolution was then carried unanimously: over a team of Irishmen armed with Rigby rifles,

unanimously:—

Resolved. That the Councit having read the letter dated 3ist of October, 1573, addressed to J. Gordon Bennett, Esq., New York, by Arthur B. Leech, Esq., and the accompanying challenge to the ritilemen of America from the rithemen of Ireland, represented by members of the Irish Ride Association; also the letter dated the 20th of December, 1573, from George W. Wingate, Esq., Secretary National kithe Association of America, and Major Leech's reply thereto, dated the 16th of January, 1574, Utily approves of the stebs which have been taken to inaugurate an international rithe match between Ireland and America, and trust that the arrangements proposed will be carried to a successful termination.

It was proposed and carried— It was proposed and carried-

That the programme before the Council specifying the terms of the match be adopted, and that Major Leech be requested to rorward the same to the National Rifle Association of America.

requested to roward the same to the National Rifle Association of America.

THE CONTEST.

The above very interesting match will, in all probability, come off at Creedmoor, Long island, N. Y., about the end of September next, on the range of the National Rifle Association of America. It speaks strongly for the pluck of the team who, having beaten the "cracks" of England and Scotland, now go further to seek "foemen worthy of their steel," or "lead" we should say. At all events, the reputation of rifle shooting held by America has hitherto been the first in the world, but we think they will meet in the Irish team no mean adversaries, for have they not won the Elcho Shield? And some of the same men will, in all probability, pull triggers in the "land of the West." The Americans will, no doubt, put into the field the strongest team they have—perhaps men culled from the backwoods, whose daily occupation is eked out with their skill in the use of the rifle; possibly some of the red men, the Crows, the Blackiect, or the Stoux Indians may enter the lists against us. However, our marksmen may depend on meeting the best men America can produce, celebrated for their nerve, clear sight and judgment. We are sure, though, that Major Leech, who selects the team, will leave no stone unturned to lead his gailant little band to victory, who then may claim the championship of the world.

The Issues Involved in the Challenge Arms, Men and Money.

[From the Irish (Dublin) Times, Feb. 13.] Some time since we noticed that the Irish team who, as winners of the Eleno Shield, are now the champion shots of Great Britain, forwarded a friendly challenge to the dute of American riflemen to compete against them on their own ground. The Irish challengers stated that they would shoot with the Rigby rides, but they left it open to the Americans to use rifles of any pattern or bore, provided they were manufactured bond fide by an American maker. To this challenge the Americans manfully responded without delay. They agreed to compete against the lamous Irish champions to compete against the mamous frish champions at any range excepting that of 1,100 yards. They objected to this simply because they had no range of that extent to practise at. General Wingate, Secretary of the National Rine Association of America, agreed to contend at ranges of 800, 900 and 1,000 yards. These terms were agreed to by the Council of the Irish Rine Association yesterday. The international rine match between ireland and America will take place in the course of the coming autumn, and we place in the course of the coming autumn, and we trust it will be followed by a return match between the rivals at the Curragh, the Phemix Park or Dollymount. The contest, it will be seen, is not only between the best American marksmen and the best Irisn champion shots, but between the rides made by Join Rigby, of Dublin, and those of the most celebrated American makers. It will be no trivial honor should our team succeed in establishing on the other side of the Atlantic their own fame as unrivalled marksmen, and the superiority of the Dublin Rigby guns.

The Irish Association has displayed a perseverance almost heroic against extraordinary diffi-

of the Dublin Rigby guns.

The Irish Association has displayed a perseverance almost heroic against extraordinary difficulties. It has hitherto been supported mainly by the members themselves, with whatever iriendly assistance they received from the Duke of Abercorn and Lord Spencer, both excellent rife shots themselves. Each of these noblemen presents a vainable cup to be competed for annually, and they have in many other ways encouraged the association and proved their high appreciation of the able manner in which it was managed by Major Leech. The Irish riflemen who had the spirit to maintain the credit of their country at Wimbledon did so under circumstances which would have caused men of any other country to despair. In England the National Rifle Association is supported, not alone by the gentlemen of England and by the volunteers, who outhumber the regular army, but by the Queen. Her sajesty every year gives a prize of 250 guineas to be shot for at Wimbledon. We have as yet no volunteers in Ireland. Our teams have to be selected from a limited number of gentlemen, who contend for the sake of the national credit, and through their passionate love of honor won by science and skill. Surely the Irish Association ought to be generously supported. If the government will not permit us to have even a single regiment of national volunteers it should at least contribute bandsomely to the expenditure of this association. The Americans present a fitting example for imitation. The beautiful and commodious rife ground at Creedmoor, near New York, where this international contest is to come off, has been established since 1870, and a grant of \$50,000 (or £6,000) was cheerfully given by the United States government to aid in the permanent establishment of the institution. It is unreasonable to expect that a few high-pirited gentlemen in Ireland should carry on the association forever by their own unaided the permanent estatorishment of the institution it is unreasonable to expect that a few highspirited private gentlemen in Ireland should carry
on the association forever by their own unaided
means and exertions. The members must purchase their own rifles, buy their own ammunition,
spend much valuable time in practice, defray the
charges incident to the care and maintenance of
their ranges, bear the expenses to and from Wimbledon or elsewhere, and actually purchase prizes
to be shot for at the annual contests in Dublin.
We hope it is only sufficient to direct public attention to this depressing state of things to secure
that fair help and encouragement should be given
to our spirited and enterprising countrymen,
whose prowess at Wimbledon is refeeted from
the glittering surface of that famous shield which
is saiely guarded in the Banqueting Hall of the
Mansion House of the City of Dublin.

The International Challenge and Correspondence.

The Irish (Dublin) Times adds:-The following is a copy of the challenge sent to America by Major Leech, and of the reply received from the National Rife Association of America:-

Rine Association of America:

J. Gordon Bennett, Esq. New York:

Sir—in matters of enterprise your name occurs to me before any in America as most likely to bring to a successful issue an international rine match, which I beg to propose between Ireland and America. At the great rine meeting held annually at Wimbledon, a team of eight Irishmen, shooting with Irish-made rines, this year beat the picked eights of England and Scotland. As the great American nation long enjoyed a world-wide reputuation for skill in rine shooting, it occurs to me that the enclosed challenge from Irish rifemen, now the champions of Great Britain, would be accepted, and, if so, a team would be organized to visit the United States in the autumn of 1874. I enclose an account of the match at Wimbledon and of the proceedings on the reception of the Irish eight in Dublin. I have the bonot to remain your faithful servant.

Citallenge to the Riplemen of America From

OCTOBER 3, 1873.

CHALLENGE TO THE RIPLEMEN OF AMERICA FROM THE RIPLEMEN OF IRELAND, REPRESENTED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE IRISH RIPLE ASSOCIATION.

Mr. A. Biennerhassett Leech, founder in 1867 of the Irish Rifle Association, will select from the

members a team, which he will match against are equal number of the representative American rife shots, to shoot in the United States in the autumn of 1874, on the following conditions:—

shots, to shoot in the United States in the autumn of 1874, on the following conditions:—
Targets, scoring, &c., same as adopted by the National Rifle Association of Great Britain at Wimoledon, 1873 (when the Irish eight won the international match for the Eicho shleid, beating England and Scotland).

Ranges—800, 900, 1,000 and 1,100 yards.
Rifles—Any not exceeding ten pounds weight, but without telescope sights or hair triggers.

Position—Any, but no artificial rest permitted, either for the rifle or person of the shooter.

The American team to be composed excinsively of riflemen born in the United states, and to shoot with rifles of American manufacture.

The Irish team will shoot with rifles by Rigby, of Dublin.

The Irish team with shoot with rifles by Rigby, of Dublin.

As this challenge is given to decide the title to the rifle championship of the world Mr. Leech will require a sufficient stake to be put down, not for the sake of a trifling pecuniary gain, but as a guarantee that the Irish team will meet the representative shots of America.

Mr. Leech desires to draw the attention of the American people to the fact that the laws of Great-Britain forbid the formation in freiand of rifle corps similar to those which exist in great numbers in England and Scotland, and that any skill acquired by Irishmen in rifle shooting is the result of individual exertion under difficulties arising from discouraging legislation.

from discouraging legislation.

of individual exertion under difficulties arising from discouraging legislation.

REPLY.

THE AMATEUR RIFLE CLUB.

No. 194 Broadway, New York, Dec. 29, 1873.

A. Blennerhassett Leech, Esq.:—

Dear Sir.—Your challenge to American riflemen, published in the New York Herald, naving been brought before the executive committee. I have been requested to address you as to the particulars of the proposed match, with the view of accepting your challenge if satisfactory arrangements can be made. The main items of your letter are satisfactory. The range of the National Rifle Association at Creedmoor, is, however, limited to 1,000 yards; and any match would, therefore, have to be confined to distances not over that limit. Please inform me as to the deposity you referred to, whether it is to be a stake to go to the winners or as security that the match will be carried out, and what amount is desired. From the high reputation of your team we are not very sanguine of success. We will, however, do our best to win; and if we cannot assure them of displaying any very extraordinary marksmanship, we can guarantee them a cordial and acopitable reception. Trusting to hear from you, I remain, yours respectfully. GEORGE W. WINGATE, President Amateur Rifle Club, and Secretary National Rifle Association.

P. S.—Our men will, I presume, shoot with either

tional Rifle Association.
P. S.—Our men will, I presume, shoot with either Remington or Sharp's breech loaders.

REPLY. IRISH RIPLE ASSOCIATION, DUBLIN, TO GRAPTON STREET,

IRISH RIPLE ASSOCIATION,
DUBLIN, 110 GRAFTON STREET,
THURSDAY, Jan. 16, 1874.

DEAR SIR—I have had the honor of receiving
your letter of 20th uit, which I baye submitted to
friends who are co-operating with me, and I am
authorized to say that a formal programme on the
basis of a chaltenge already before you of the proposed international rine match will be shortly
prepared, which I will be happy to submit for approval of your association. In deterence to your
suggestion, I will, if possible, waive the L100 yards
range, although to do so will, I ear, detract somewhat from the great interest of the match. When
I addressed the challenge to the American nation,
through the columns of the like York Herald,
I was not aware that you and a National Rifle Association, which you will please accept as my
apology for not having addressed it in the first instance. I am authorized to say that my friends
are highly gratified at the flattering terms in which
you write. I have always considered that we cannot know top much of each other, and that whichever side wins in this great trial of skill and judgment, we will have an agreeable opportunity of
improving the acquaintance, if not securing the
friendship, of those we may have the honor and
pleasure of being for a time associated with in
your country. Pray accept my thanks for your
courtesy.

your country. Fray accept my thanks for your courtesy.

I have the honor to remain, your very faithful, ARTHUR B, LEECH.

GEORGE W. WINGATE, Esq., Secretary National Rifle Association of America, No. 194 Broadway, New York.

POLICEMEN AND PISTOLS.

Belief of the Average Officer in His Right to Shoot on Suspicion. TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD :-

Is it not about time, in view of the recent murders and attempts at murder by policemen in the uniawful use of a deadly weapon, that the authority of these men were more strictly defined and prescribed in conformity with established law? as been urged, from time to time, when homicide has occurred from either the careless or intentional use of such weapon by the private citizen, that the law forbidding the carrying of the pistol by the citizen should be mexorably and universally entorced, even at the risk of his suffering great bodily harm or loss of life in sudden and extreme emergencies. We all know that our police loree includes some of the very worst class of men. Ignorant, rude, quarrelsoine, and even drunken creatures are observed among them. Men who have just the least possible acquaintance with our institutions; men who are fitted neither by nature nor by training to comprehend the laws which regulate their duties; thieves, harborers and colluders with thieves, are boldly asserted to be common among their number. And yet such persons are placed high-above the citizen whose life and property they are appointed to protect, and are armed with weapons which are denied to the citizen himself under all circumstances. fering great bodily harm or loss of life in sudden

circumstances.

It seems to me that something must be done in the interest of the community to protect the rights of individuals and insure their safety from insult, bodily injury, and even death, at the hands of these armed ruffians. What a multitude of our citizens, men and women, could tell of insults, impudent and unnecessary intrusions and all manuer pugent and uninecessity associated now on the force, who are constantly making the name of decency, justice and personal security odious! Shall the citizen be allowed to carry the pistol now to defend himself against the outrages of the police? Or shall the policeman be a man of average intellect, cool and sober, with a preparatory training which shall give nim an adequate notion of the authority with which he is entrusted and particularly with regard to his duties in the use of a murderous weapon?

erous weapon? I have taken some pains to learn from police-I have taken some pains to learn from policemen and from men who are now applying for positions on the lorce as to their ideas of the duties of the office with regard to weapons, and if such as I have interviewed are a fair sample of those now on the lorce I must say that their comprehension of the subject is simply infernal. One man, who is expecting to be replaced in the position, actually believes that the mere suspicion which may get into the mind of one of these "guardians of the citizens" life" would justify the shooting down a party suspected, even though ne had stolen only a loaf of bread. No matter, of course, whether the suspicion were reasonably lounded or not, nor to what extremity of starvation the supposed culprit may have been brought, provided only the officer had ordered him, "Stop thief!" and he had refused.

This man believes that no innocent man will ever Truly, here is a way of dispensing with the expense and vexations of trials by jury and the services of the Sheriff as hangman.

Let the community look to it.

AN UNARMED CITIZEN.

NEW YORE, Feb. 27, 1874.

Right of Policemen to Force Open Doors The Law as Understood by an Old Officer. NEW YORK, Feb. 26, 1874.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:-

Holding a position in the Police Department and knowing something of the duties of policemen, I was surprised to see in your paper a remark, said to have emanated from Superintendent Matseil, that the officers who entered the premises in which McNamara lived had a lawful right to do so. I pronounce it a most wanton outrage and a bungling act of police duty. In the first place, a policeman has no right to enter a house by forcing a door unless by virtue of a warrant, except when pursuing a person or persons who have committed a felony and who have entered the premises when in the presence and in view of the officer pursuing him. Now we will see in what manner the detectives sent by Captain Irving did their duty. It seems they were informed that a certain criminal would be found in the apartments of his mistress. At best this was only hearsay evidence, which did not give them sufficient and lawful grounds to force a door, particularly at such an hour in the morning. It was not necessary even so to do; for, upon such evidence, it was their duty to have set a watch upon the premises until a warrant could have been obtained. In the meantime, with such a vatch, the criminal could not have escaped, if he had been on the premises. Then, with the warrant, they could have entered the premises in due process of law.

After visiting the premises of the criminal's mistress, and not finding him, they, without sufficient and lawful grounds, forcibly entered the premises of the unfortunate McNamara, and in so doing committed a murder. Their excuse for so doing is that they thought the criminal was there. A mere supposition is not sufficient grounds for an officer to force any doors of the apartments in said building with such evidence as they possessed, unless by warrant, and if Mr. Matsell or Captain Irving directed the officers so to do, neither they not the officers know their duty. I find so much ignorance pursuing a person or persons who have committed

directed the officers so to do, neither they nor the officers know their duty. I find so much ignorance among the officers of the department in regard to making arrests that it is a wonder that we do not

have more of such sad occurrences.

CHARLES CATCHEM.

FIRE AT PORTSMOUTH.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Feb. 27, 1874. The distillery of Bryson & Co., at Portsmouth, Onto, was partially destroyed by fire this morning. The distillery was valued at \$50,000, upon which there was no insurance.